

**MELBOURNE
UNITARIAN
PEACE MEMORIAL
CHURCH**

**110 Grey Street
East Melbourne, 3002**

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2009

Dear Reader,

Church services commence at 11 am every Sunday.

NOVEMBER

8 TONY KEENAN, CEO, Hanover Welfare Services – *‘Can we halve homelessness by 2020 in Australia?’*

15 GAVIN GUFTY, Manager of Policy & Research St Vincent de Paul – *‘Smart Meters - Issues & implications’*

22 PAULINE MITCHELL, Secretary Campaign for International Co-operation & Disarmament (CICD) – *‘Dangerous occupations’*

29 157TH ANNIVERSARY SERVICE – DR ERIC HELLER, Unitarian Minister who has served in many Unitarian Churches in Australia and overseas – *‘Will the Revolution be Televised?’* with a performance from Thursdays Children Choir – Director Therese Virtue

DECEMBER

6 DR RICHARD BOEKE, Vice President, World Congress of faiths & Minister of the Unitarian Church of Horsham, West Sussex, UK - *‘Unitarian – the oneness religion’*

13 DR RICHARD BOEKE, Vice President, World Congress of faiths & Minister of the Unitarian Church of Horsham, West Sussex, UK – *‘A Christmas Carol – A gift from Unitarian Charles Dickens’*

Chairperson: Peter Abrehart Office Secretary: Donna Sensi Secretary: Marion Harper
Tel: 9417 4178 (Church)

Sunday Services - 11 am - 12 noon weekly

Unitarian Half Hour - 3CR - 855 AM Dial Saturday 10.30 am weekly

Philosophy Group - 12.30 - 2 pm (First Sunday)

Poetry Group – 12.30 pm (2nd Sunday)

Social Justice Action Group – 12.30 pm (last Sunday of the month)

Dear Readers,

Well here we are down to our second last Beacon for the year. We do hope we have kept you well informed and attentive to the many issues. The responses re letters, show that people are reading and indeed have vast knowledge re the Beacon. It is so important that the interaction between readers and the Beacon Editorial Board occurs. The number of readers stays about the same (700) and we do need your assistance to reach our goal of 1,000. Beacon for 'Xmas' to a friend or relative may be a great start! Contact Donna and pass on the required information. Please keep the letters and articles coming in. But where oh where are those poets! Poems can express so much. If by the way you would like to receive Beacon by having it sent 'on-line' please contact Donna with the required details and she will be happy to comply. *For now – good reading!*

UNITARIAN HALF HOUR: (3CR 855 dial) each Saturday morning from **10.30 – 11 am**. Usually but not always a repeat of our previous Sunday addresses. A great half-hour not to be missed. If you do listen, please pass on your comments, this will help us to understand how well the programme is being received. Your criticism or praise will be duly noted. Consider those morning teas with friends and help our listening audience to grow. Monies to assist 3CR to go digital (which is inevitable) if it wishes to continue on air can be sent to our church or 3CR, 21 Smith Street, Collingwood 3066. *Many thanks!*

PHILOSOPHY GROUP: has been active for many years and still continues to grow and grow and create interest. Issues, be they philosophical; religious or scientific are put under the microscope. Thanks to Lev Lafayette, long term member of our church for his work re this group. The 'meet' is the **first Sunday of the month at 12.30 pm** and December of course will be the final for this year where the topic will be '*The Virtual World*'. Do try to attend if you can. Friends are most welcome. Contact the church for more information.

POETRY/READING/MUSIC: if you have not attended this very special and vibrant group do consider doing so at once. (For Melburnians and visitors to our church). This group has been active for some years and shows no sign of abating. Much poetry, music and information comes forth to make a really good get-together. If you have poems re books; written verse or pros please consider passing these on. Our meetings are held each **2nd Sunday of the month at 12.30 pm**. We would love to have your company. Ring Margaret on (03) 9761 1850 for more information.

SOCIAL JUSTICE ACTION: meet on the **last Sunday of the month at 12.30 pm**. The issues taken up are of 'grave' concern to many people. The idea of this group is to make people aware of what is being done in their name and hopefully come up with a solution. Contact Peter Abrehart on 0438 536 146 or Donna on 9417 4178. *Hope to see you!*

CONCERT: our **December 20th** concert is in the process of being organised and we hope to bring you a Sunday (11 am sharp!) of pure end of year enjoyment. This year's fundraiser is to assist the Animal Humane Society. The animal world is a very necessary part of our environment and indeed so important to mother Earth. Please come along to enjoy and donate. Help animals so desperately abused by members

of our human race. *Hope to see you!*

SUNDAY SERVICES: each **Sunday at 11 am** (sharp). We do our best to bring you speakers to inspire you and issues of major concern. Interspersed of course are addresses on Unitarianism and its link to social issues. We would like you to note that **Sunday November 29th is our 157th Anniversary of Unitarianism in Melbourne**. A great feat! Please take note of speakers at front of newsletter for more details re this. A lunch is provided each Sunday through generous food contributions. Food is welcome but not essential.

CICD 1959 – 2009 - 50 YEARS FOR PEACE AND DISARMAMENT: Invitation - Campaign for International Co-operation and Disarmament will celebrate the 50th Anniversary in November.

Time: 1.30pm to 4pm
Date: Saturday 14 November 2009
Venue: Unitarian Church Hall,
110 Grey Street, East Melbourne

The speaker at the function is Assoc Prof Tilman Ruff, a vice-president of CICD, chair of ICAN Australia and a board member of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War. Prof Ruff will speak about the latest developments relating to the abolition of nuclear weapons and about the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty Review Conference which will be held in 2010. Being involved in the International Commission on Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament established by the Rudd Government 2008, Prof Ruff is an outstanding speaker on nuclear disarmament.

Unitarian Church participated in the foundation congress 1959 and has been closely associated with CICD ever since. We invite all the church members to this anniversary.

FOR THOSE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS: who cannot through a variety of reasons attend our church please note you are missed and always in our thoughts. Best wishes to you.

UNITARIAN WEB PAGE: please make use of our web site on www.melbourneunitarian.org.au Much interest in this has already been shown with people attending our church. Encourage friends to log in.

WEDDINGS-NAMING-FUNERAL SERVICES: Peter Abrehart, Chairperson and Celebrant performs the above services you can call the church 9417 4178, home 9460 9409 or mobile 0438 536 146.

UNTIL NEXT TIME –TAKE CARE!

CHURCH FOR USE: our church is now accessible for outside use and we encourage people to consider this. If you wish to show films the church has available for use, video/DVD and a modern projector. Large screen is also to be had. Please give some thought to this re groups you are involved with. Ring Donna for more details.